

development, provide opportunity for our children, invest at the beginning, not in our prisons, but invest in education from the beginning. Then we are going to have a society where individuals are going to go out to be governors, Presidents, Congressmen, assemblymen, businesspersons; they will have an opportunity to fulfill those dreams.

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California. I think the gentleman reminds us if it were not for public education, most of us would not be here either.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KIND), my friend who serves on the Committee on Education and the Workforce. He has been an outspoken advocate for education and a real champion.

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from North Carolina, my friend, for yielding to me.

I saw the conversation taking place on the House floor and I wanted to join my friends and also commend my friend, the gentleman from North Carolina, the former State superintendent of the school system there, for his leadership and expertise that he has provided us in this Chamber on education issues.

I wanted to also thank the gentleman from California (Mr. BACA), my good friend, for his energy and tireless effort in promoting educational programs here in Congress during his term. But I, for one, was very, very happy during the last campaign that there was so much discussion and focus on education issues whether it was Vice President Gore or Governor Bush.

I think it elevated the sense of urgency that many of us feel in regards to our education investments as a Nation, but I just wanted to add during this conversation tonight a very important piece of the puzzle as we move forward on reauthorizing the elementary and secondary education bill in the Committee on Education and Workforce this year, and that is virtually every school district throughout the Nation is facing a common challenge, and that is the rising costs of providing a quality education to students with special needs, special education costs.

We have a bill at the Federal level called Individuals With Disabilities Education Act, IDEA, and when it was passed back in the 1970s, there was a commitment on the Federal level that we would at least provide 40 percent of the expenses to local school districts and educating these children with special needs.

We have not done a very good job of living up to that obligation, that responsibility at the Federal level. I am sure every representative in this House could go home and find stories that they can share with us in regards to the rising costs of special education. Let us face it, with the advancement of medical technology and health care today, we are putting our children on a collision course with school funding at

the local level, because many of the kids now who normally would not have survived and lived to join the public education system are doing so, and with that brings added costs and expense.

If we can get one thing right during this education debate this year, it is fully funding IDEA, providing the 40 percent cost share back to local school districts, so they have more flexibility, more resources in order to educate these children, but also to do and implement the type of reforms that we are demanding of them, to improve student performance in the classroom.

This is more than just good policy, this is a civil rights issue. These children deserve to have access to a quality education, like any other child in this country. So we have a special obligation, I feel, in this session of Congress to try to get to that 40 percent level.

Even though we had a 27 percent increase last year in the last budget in regards to IDEA funding, it still only puts us at roughly 14 percent or 15 percent of the 40 percent level where we really should be. It would require an additional \$11 billion or so to get the full funding this year, but it is a question of budgetary priorities, where we feel investments need to be made as a Nation. I could not think of any better place to start than with our children in the education system, helping local school districts, increasing their flexibility by providing them these resources that the Federal Government has promised throughout the years but has failed to deliver upon.

Hopefully we will be able to get that aspect of education done in a bipartisan fashion during this year in Congress. The litmus test, quite frankly, will be the administration's first budget request that they are going to send out and where they place special education funding on their list of priorities, from there, then, hopefully, we will be able to establish the broad-based political coalition that I know exists in the House based on previous debates and votes that we have had in order to get this piece of the puzzle done for education.

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Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Wisconsin is correct. We have the resources to do it this year. There is no reason that we cannot start down that road and make it happen. If we really want to have a better world, it has been said if you want a better world, you share it with a child and they will build it. We have that opportunity.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. ACKERMAN (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week on account of medical reasons.

Mr. BECERRA (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of business in the district.

Mr. SCOTT (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of attending a funeral.

Mr. STUPAK (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week on account of family obligations.

Mr. WAMP (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today on account of canceled airline flights.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. MCNULTY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BACA, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. PLATTS, for 5 minutes, March 7 and 8.

Mrs. BIGGERT, for 5 minutes, March 7.

Mr. KELLER, for 5 minutes, March 7.

Mr. OXLEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina, for 5 minutes, March 7.

BILL PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Jeff Trandahl, Clerk of the House, reports that on March 1, 2001 he presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill:

H.R. 559. To designate the United States courthouse located at 1 Courthouse Way in Boston, Massachusetts, as the "John Joseph Moakley United States Courthouse."

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, March 7, 2001, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1104. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Force Management Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting a notification to close six Department of Defense

commissary stores; to the Committee on Armed Services.

1105. A letter from the Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense, Acquisition and Technology, Department of Defense, transmitting an interim response regarding the annual commercial activities report, required by section 2461(g) of title 10, United States Code describing the extent to which commercial and industrial type functions were performed by Department of Defense contractors during the preceding fiscal year; to the Committee on Armed Services.

1106. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutant Emissions: Group IV Polymers and Resins [AD-FRL-6768-2] (RIN: 2060-AH47) received February 28, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1107. A letter from the Legal Advisor, Cable Services Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Implementation of the Satellite Home Viewer Improvement Act of 1999: Broadcast Signal Carriage Issues [CS Docket No. 00-96] Retransmission Consent Issues [CS Docket No. 99-363] received February 26, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1108. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certifications and waivers under section 565(b) of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1994 and 1995 of the prohibition against contracting with firms that comply with the Arab League Boycott of the state of Israel and of the prohibition against contracting with firms that discriminate in the award of subcontracts on the basis of religion, pursuant to Public Law 103-236, section 565(b) (108 Stat. 845); to the Committee on International Relations.

1109. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting a report on the actions needed to correct the Consumer Price Index error in the Civil Service Retirement System and the Federal Employees Retirement System; to the Committee on Government Reform.

1110. A letter from the Acting Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Final Determination of Critical Habitat for the California Red-legged Frog (RIN: 1018-AG32) received March 5, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

1111. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic; Trip Limit Reduction [Docket No. 991008273-0070-02; I.D. 021601C] received February 28, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

1112. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Groundfish by Vessels Using Non-pelagic Trawl Gear in the Red King Crab Savings Subarea [Docket No. 01012013-1013-01; I.D. 021601A] received February 28, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

1113. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration,

transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Groundfish by Vessels Using Non-Pelagic Trawl Gear in the Red King Crab Savings Subarea [Docket No. 01012013-1013-01; I.D. 022201A] received March 1, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

1114. A letter from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Financial Assistance for Research and Development Projects in the Gulf of Mexico and Off the U.S. South Atlantic Coastal States; Marine Fisheries Initiative (MARFIN) [Docket No. 001214350-0350-01, I.D. 112700B] (RIN: 0648-Z098) received March 1, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

1115. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel, FBI, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule—National Instant Criminal Background Check System Regulation; Delay of Effective Date [AG Order No. 2403-2001; FBI 105F] (RIN: 1110-AA02) received February 28, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

1116. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Division, ATF, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule—Delegation of Authority in Part 170 [T.D. ATF-439] (RIN: 1512-AC23) received March 1, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1117. A letter from the Acting Chief, Regulations Division, ATF, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule—Delegation of Authority in 27 CFR Part 30 [T.D. ATF-438] (RIN: 1512-AC16) received March 1, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1118. A letter from the Acting Chief, Regulations Division, ATF, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule—Fair Play Viticultural Area (2000R-170P) [T.D. ATF-440 Re: Notice No. 900] (RIN: 1512-AA07) received February 28, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1119. A letter from the Acting Chief, Regulations Division, ATF, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule—Realignment of the Boundary of the Walla Walla Valley Viticultural Area and the Eastern Boundary of the Columbia Valley Viticultural Area (99R-141P) [T.D. ATF-441; RE: Notice No. 898] (RIN: 1512-AA07) received February 28, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1120. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report on recent actions taken in response to requests from the Governments of Italy and Nicaragua; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1121. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Last-in, first-out inventories [Rev. Rul. 2001-14] received February 27, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1122. A letter from the Acting Commissioner, Social Security Administration, transmitting a report on the Consumer Price Index Error; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk

for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. TAUZIN: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 724. A bill to authorize appropriations to carry out part B of title I of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, relating to the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (Rept. 107-6). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. THOMAS: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 3. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce individual income tax rates; with an amendment (Rept. 107-7). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mrs. MYRICK: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 78. Resolution providing for the consideration of motions to suspend the rules (Rept. 107-8). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. LINDER: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 79. Resolution providing for consideration of the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 6) providing for congressional disapproval of the rule submitted by the Department of Labor under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, relating to ergonomics (Rept. 107-9). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. TAUZIN: Committee on Energy and Commerce. House Concurrent Resolution 31. Resolution expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the importance of organ, tissue, bone marrow, and blood donation and supporting National Donor Day (Rept. 107-10). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. TAUZIN: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 624. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to promote organ donation (Rept. 107-11). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. SENSENBRENNER:

H.R. 860. A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to allow a judge to whom a case is transferred to retain jurisdiction over certain multidistrict litigation cases for trial, and to provide for Federal jurisdiction of certain multiparty, multiforum civil actions; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GEKAS:

H.R. 861. A bill to make technical amendments to section 10 of title 9, United States Code; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. EVANS (for himself, Mr. FILLNER, Mr. REYES, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. SHOWS, Mr. BONIOR, Mr. CONDIT, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. FRANK, Mr. FROST, Mr. KLECZKA, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mr. MAS-CARA, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Ms. BALDWIN):

H.R. 862. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to add Diabetes Mellitus (Type 2) to the list of diseases presumed to be service-connected for veterans exposed to certain herbicide agents; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. SMITH of Texas (for himself, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. BARR of Georgia, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. COBLE, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. KELLER, Mr. MEEHAN, and Mr. WEINER):

H.R. 863. A bill to provide grants to ensure increased accountability for juvenile offenders; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PAUL:

H.R. 864. A bill to restore the separation of powers between the Congress and the President; to the Committee on the Judiciary.